

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 of the application are currently pending. By virtue of the accompanying amendment, claims 1-12 have been cancelled, and new claims 13-26 have been added. New claims 13-26 better define the invention, and have not been added as a result of any requirement of patentability. Further, new claims 13-27 are fully supported by the written description, claims, and drawings of the specification as originally filed. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that new claims 13-26 do not add new matter.

New claim 13 includes the following limitations:

a housing defining a slot shaped and dimensioned to receive a first memory card therein, and a memory card storage mechanism to store at least one second memory card therein; and

an electronic component to read the first memory card.

(New claim 13) (Emphasis Added).

In the Office action mailed November 12, 2004, the Examiner avers that Nagel (U.S. Pat. No. 6,173,405) discloses a:

“memory card interface apparatus comprising: a bay to receive a memory card 24 for accessing data stored on the card; and a separate storage cavity 26 configured to store a memory card 24...”

Applicants have considered the Examiner’s averment, but respectfully disagree. The component 24 disclosed in Nagel is not a bay to receive a memory card. Instead the component 24 is a media connector port which affords interface capabilities between a media connector and a communications line. For example, the port 24 may be used to connect to a phone jack (see Abstract and column 4, lines 40-60). Further, the component 26 referred to by the Examiner is not a storage cavity, but instead it is a housing into which the media connector port 24 may be slid. (See column 5, lines 25-40) Moreover, Nagel does not teach or suggest a memory card reader. Instead Nagel discloses a secure communications card modem. The modem includes a

reader. Instead Nagel discloses a secure communications card modem. The modem includes a security port which is adapted for receiving a security card. During use, a user inserts a security card into the security port whereupon the security card is authenticated by a reader circuit within the modem. Thereafter, the modem circuitry within the modem is enabled to receive or transmit sensitive data (see Abstract).

Nagel fails to teach or suggest a storage mechanism to store at least one-second memory card, as recited in claim 13. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 13 is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious by Nagel.

Given that claims 14-19 depend on claim 13, it is respectfully submitted that these claims also are not anticipated or rendered obvious by Nagel.

Regarding independent claim 20, this claim also includes limitations similar in scope to the above-discussed limitations of claim 13. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Nagel does not anticipate or render obvious claim 20.

Given that claims 21-27 are dependent on claim 20, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are also not anticipated or rendered obvious by Nagel.

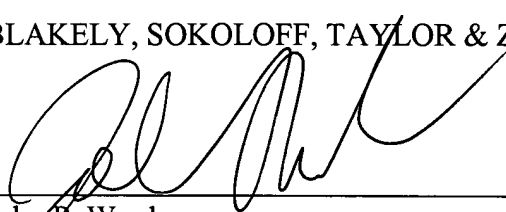
It is respectfully submitted that in view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein, all rejections have been overcome. All pending claims are now in condition for allowance, which is earnestly solicited.

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account 02-2666 for any charges that may be due. Furthermore, if an extension is required, then Applicants hereby request such an extension.

Respectfully submitted,

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